

## House Republican Press Release

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### **Rep. Giuliano: Homeland Security Grants Okayed for 23rd District Towns**



Federal homeland security and anti-terrorism grants will be provided to Lyme, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook and Westbrook within the next few weeks, state Representative Marilyn Giuliano, R-23<sup>rd</sup> District, announced today.

The grants, which will be used to strengthen state, local and regional efforts to prevent, respond to and recover from terrorism-related chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive incidents, as well as cyber attacks and natural disasters, come from a \$24,080,428 federal homeland security grant the state received recently, Representative Giuliano said.

About \$16.9 million of the funding is earmarked for distribution to Connecticut's cities and towns for planning and operations, including communications, medical reserves and regional response teams for hazardous materials and bombs. The remaining funds will support state programs and be administered by the state's new Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS), Representative Giuliano said.

"These grants will enable our towns to implement public safety and security measures that will save lives if a terrorist attack should occur in or around Lyme, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook or Westbrook," Representative Giuliano said. "The funding will be used to upgrade the capabilities of fire, police, emergency medical services and emergency management units in our towns and enable them to respond more effectively if a terrorist incident or natural disaster causes mass casualties. While we all hope and pray that no terrorist attack ever takes place in our towns, these grants will help ensure that we are prepared to act quickly and decisively should the unthinkable occur."

Homeland Security and Terrorism Prevention grants awarded to 23<sup>rd</sup> District towns include:

- Lyme: \$14,092
- Old Lyme: \$28,383
- Old Saybrook: \$45,558
- Westbrook: \$25,564

DEMHAS will hold eight meetings around the state, including one in Old Saybrook on Tuesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, to provide information to municipalities and regional organizations regarding the distribution of the funds and specific projects and programs that can be funded. The department has invited chief elected officials as well as local public safety, emergency management and emergency medical officials, Representative Giuliano said.

The March 29<sup>th</sup> meeting in Old Saybrook will take place at the Old Saybrook Middle School Auditorium, 60 Sheffield Street, from 9 to 11 a.m.